

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please write the claims to read as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) Asynchronous connection-oriented transmission network (10)
2 of the ATM network type comprising a plurality of switching nodes (12, 14, 16, 18) in-
3 terconnected by connection lines, each of said switching nodes being associated with a
4 control point being in charge of determining the best route between any source node (12)
5 and any destination node (18) when a connection has to be established therebetween by
6 identifying which of the connection lines are eligible based upon the requirement of a
7 quality of service;
8 said network being characterized in that each one of said plurality of switching
9 nodes comprises:
10 Control ATM Test Application (CATMTA) means (22) and Deamon ATM Test
11 Application (DATMTA) means (32) so that, at any time, a user interfacing a source node
12 can test the connectivity of a network connection from said source node to a destination
13 node by initiating a connection procedure wherein a call setup message (Fig. 1) is sent by
14 the CATMTA means of said source node to said destination node and the DATMTA
15 means of said destination node send back an acknowledgement message (Fig. 2) to said
16 source node; and

17 said Control ATM Test Application (CATMTA) means (22) comprise means for
18 sending a verification data stream (Fig. 3) to said destination node after receiving said
19 acknowledgement message and said Deamon ATM Test Application (DATMTA) means
20 (32)-comprise means for sending back a response data stream after receiving said verifi-
21 cation data stream, said verification and response data streams being used to check the
22 characteristics of the connection previously established between said source node and
23 said destination node.

1 2. (CANCELLED)

1 3. (Currently Amended) Asynchronous connection-oriented transmission network (10)
2 according to claim 1 being an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) network.

1 4. (Currently Amended) Asynchronous connection-oriented transmission network (10)
2 according to claim 1 being a Frame Relay network.

1 5. (Currently Amended) Method for triggering the control plane in an asynchronous con-
2 nection-oriented transmission network, comprising the following steps initiated at any
3 time on request by a user interfacing a source node (12):

4 sending from the Control ATM Test Application (CATMTA) means (22) of said
5 source node a call setup message (Fig. 1) for testing the connectivity of a network con-

6 nnection to the Deamon ATM Test Application (DATMTA) means (32) of a destination
7 node (18), and
8 sending back an acknowledgement message (Fig. 2) from said DATMTA means
9 of said destination node to said CATMTA means of said source node when the connec-
10 tion has been successfully established between said source node and said destination
11 node; and
12 sending, at any time, a verification data stream (Fig. 3) from said CATMTA
13 means in said source node (12) to said destination node (18) after receiving said ac-
14 knowledge message (Fig. 2), and sending back a response data stream from said
15 DATMTA means in said destination node to said source node, whereby said verification
16 and response data streams are used to check the characteristics of the connection previ-
17 ously established between said source node and said destination node.

1 6. (CANCELLED)

1 7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Method according to claim 5, wherein said verifica-
2 tion and response data streams are used to check the end-to-end transit delay of the con-
3 nection previously established between said source node and said destination node.

1 8. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 5, wherein said verification and
2 response data streams are used to check whether the bandwidth requested by the user in-

3 interfacing said source node has been actually allocated for a constant bit rate over the con-
4 nection previously established between said source node and said destination node.

1 9. (Currently Amended) A method for operating a computer, comprising:

2 sending a call setup message over a computer network to a destination computer,
3 the call setup message to initiate a roundtrip connection through the computer network;
4 receiving an acknowledgement message from the destination computer indicating
5 that the call setup message was received, the acknowledgement message indicating that a
6 the roundtrip connection through the computer network is established between the com-
7 puter and the destination computer;

8 sending, at any time, a verification data stream to the destination computer in re-
9 sponse to receiving the acknowledgement message, the verification data stream sent over
10 the connection;

11 receiving a response data stream from the destination computer, the response data
12 stream sent over the connection; and

13 checking a characteristics of the connection in response to the verification data
14 stream and the received response data stream.

1 10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as in claim 9, further comprising:

2 establishing the connection in an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) computer
3 network.

1 11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as in claim 9, further comprising:
2 establishing the connection in a Frame Relay computer network.

1 12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as in claim 9, further comprising:
2 checking an end-to-end transit delay of the connection using said verification and
3 response data streams.

1 13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method as in claim 9, further comprising:
2 checking whether a bandwidth requested by a user interfacing said computer has
3 been actually allocated for a constant bit rate over the connection using said verification
4 and response data streams.

1 14. (Currently Amended) A computer, comprising:
2 means for sending a call setup message over a computer network to a destination
3 computer, the call setup message to initiate a roundtrip connection through the computer
4 network;
5 means for receiving an acknowledgement message from the destination computer
6 indicating that the call setup message was received, the acknowledgement message indi-
7 cating that a the roundtrip connection through the computer network is established be-
8 tween the computer and the destination computer;
9 means for sending, at any time, a verification data stream to the destination com-
10 puter in response to receiving the acknowledgement message, the verification data stream
11 sent over the connection;

12 means for receiving a response data stream from the destination computer, the
13 response data stream sent over the connection; and
14 means for checking a characteristics of the connection in response to the verifica-
15 tion data stream and the received response data stream.

1 15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer as in claim 14, further comprising:
2 means for establishing the connection in an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM)
3 computer network.

1 16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer as in claim 14, further comprising:
2 means for establishing the connection in a Frame Relay computer network.

1 17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer as in claim 14, further comprising:
2 means for checking an end-to-end transit delay of the connection using said veri-
3 fication and response data streams.

1 18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer as in claim 14, further comprising:
2 means for checking whether a bandwidth requested by a user interfacing said
3 computer has been actually allocated for a constant bit rate over the connection using said
4 verification and response data streams.

1 19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer, comprising:

2 a transmitter to send a call setup message over a computer network to a destination
3 computer, the call setup message to initiate a roundtrip connection through the computer network;

5 a receiver to receive an acknowledgement message from the destination computer
6 indicating that the call setup message was received, the acknowledgement message indicating
7 that a the roundtrip connection through the computer network is established between
8 the computer and the destination computer;

9 a transmitter to send, at any time, a verification data stream to the destination
10 computer in response to receiving the acknowledgement message, the verification data
11 stream sent over the connection;

12 a receiver to receive a response data stream from the destination computer, the response data stream sent over the connection; and

14 a processor to check a characteristics of the connection in response to the verification data stream and the received response data stream.

1 20. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer as in claim 19, further comprising:

2 the computer network is an Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) computer network.

1 21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer as in claim 19, further comprising:

2 the computer network is a Frame Relay computer network.

1 22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer as in claim 19, further comprising:

2 means for checking an end-to-end transit delay of the connection using said verification and response data streams.

- 1 23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The computer as in claim 19, further comprising:
 - 2 means for checking whether a bandwidth requested by a user interfacing said
 - 3 computer has been actually allocated for a constant bit rate over the connection using said
 - 4 verification and response data streams.
- 1 24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A computer readable media, comprising:
 - 2 said computer readable media having instructions written thereon for execution on
 - 3 a processor for the practice of the method of claim 5 or claim 9.
- 1 25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Electromagnetic signals propagating on a computer network, comprising:
 - 3 said electromagnetic signals carrying instructions for execution on a processor for
 - 4 the practice of the method of claim 5 or claim 9.

Please add new claims 26 *et al.*

- 1 26. (New) A method for operating a computer, comprising:
- 2 sending a call setup message over a computer network to a destination computer,
- 3 the call setup message to initiate a roundtrip connection through the computer network;
- 4 receiving an acknowledgement message from the destination computer indicating
- 5 that the call setup message was received, the acknowledgement message indicating that
- 6 the roundtrip connection through the computer network is established between the com-
- 7 puter and the destination computer;
- 8 sending, at any time, a verification data stream to the destination computer in re-
- 9 sponse to receiving the acknowledgement message, the verification data stream sent over
- 10 the connection;
- 11 counting data in the verification data stream and measuring the time during which
- 12 the data are received, where counted data and measured time are part of a response data
- 13 stream;
- 14 receiving the response data stream from the destination computer, the response
- 15 data stream sent over the connection; and
- 16 checking the counted data and the measured time to determine a bandwidth of the
- 17 connection.